

PROVIDING FOR EXPENSES OF INVESTIGATIONS AND
STUDIES TO BE CONDUCTED BY THE SELECT COMMIT-
TEE ON NARCOTICS ABUSE AND CONTROL

AUGUST 31, 1976.—Referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed

Mr. THOMPSON, from the Committee on House Administration,
submitted the following

REPORT

[To accompany H. Res. 1472]

The Committee on House Administration, to which was referred the resolution (H. Res. 1472) having considered the same, report favorably thereon without amendment and recommend that the resolution do pass.

By voice vote, on August 31, 1976, a quorum being present, the Committee adopted a motion to report House Resolution 1472 favorably.

House Resolution 1472 provides funds in the amount of \$111,667 for the expenses of investigations and studies to be conducted by the Select Committee on Narcotics Abuse and Control during the remainder of the 94th Congress.

In a budget submitted to the Committee on House Administration, in support of House Resolution 1472, the Honorable Lester L. Wolff, Chairman of Select Committee on Narcotics Abuse and Control, and the Honorable J. Herbert Burke, the Ranking Minority Member, outlined the Committee's need for funds as follows:

AUGUST 16, 1976.

Hon. FRANK THOMPSON,
Chairman, Committee on House Administration,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: I am enclosing a copy of the proposed budget for the Select Committee on Narcotics Abuse and Control along with an explanation of the plans for the operation of the Select Committee. I am happy to provide any additional material which you feel would facilitate the consideration of the proposal by the Subcommittee on Accounts.

The membership of the Select Committee on Narcotics Abuse and Control considered the budget request at the organizational meeting on August 10, 1976 and unanimously adopted the proposed request.

H. Res. 1472, the funding authorization resolution was introduced on August 10, 1976 and has been referred to the Subcommittee on Accounts.

Thank you for your prompt consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

LESTER L. WOLFF, *Chairman.*

STATEMENT AND JUSTIFICATION ON PROPOSED BUDGET

This will be the first year of activity of the Select Committee on Narcotics Abuse and Control which was created by the passage of H. Res. 1350 on July 29, 1976.

As you can see the percentage of the total budget made up by staff salaries, roughly 70 percent, is similar to the percentages of other select committees. During the rest of the 94th Congress, the Select Committee will use a skeleton staff to fulfill the mandate of the enabling resolution. To limit the expense to the Congress, the Select Committee will borrow personnel, at no expense to the Congress, from several executive agencies, departments and bureaus and will establish formal liaisons with the relevant Executive organizations. In addition, the Select Committee will draw upon the expertise of existing Committee staffs, when appropriate, and upon the personal staffs of the Members of the Select Committee.

Another important and significant consideration is that the Select Committee must be funded entirely from funds authorized by a Resolution from the House contingent fund. As a Select Committee, payment of certain salaries from House Appropriations is not routinely provided as they are to a standing committee. The figures for supplies and publications reflect the fact that the Committee will incur certain startup expenses as a result of this being the first year of activity.

In this memorandum, it is not my purpose to justify to the House Administration Committee the necessity or the merits for the work proposed to be done by the Select Committee on Narcotics Abuse and Control. The mandate of the House to this new Select Committee was, "(1) to conduct a continuing comprehensive study and review of the problems of narcotics abuse and control, including, but not limited to, international trafficking, enforcement, prevention, narcotics related violations of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954, international treaties, organized crime, drug abuse in the Armed Forces of the United States, treatment and rehabilitation, and the approach of the criminal justice system with respect to narcotics related violations and crimes related to drug abuse; and (2) to review any recommendations made by the President or by any department or agency of the executive branch of the Federal Government, relating to programs or policies affecting narcotics abuse or control." It is clear that this broad jurisdiction covers all of the domestic and international facets of drug abuse as well as encompassing questions relating to both the supply and demand for narcotics.

Eighteen Members have been designated by the Speaker to serve on the Select Committee and are prepared to address the issues raised in the enabling legislation. The staff outlined in this budget estimate

has been allocated in such fashion that the immediate needs of the Committee can be fulfilled. As a Select Committee, in accordance with the Rules of the House, the staff will be totally nonpartisan. Members of the minority have joined with the members of the majority in deciding that this is not an issue which knows partisan divisions.

It must be underlined that this Select Committee is a factfinding, oversight committee and does not have any legislative jurisdiction. Therefore the Select Committee must have the staff to collect, correlate, study and evaluate information for the benefit of the standing committees which have legislative jurisdiction in the fields enunciated in the enabling legislation. The first order of business of the Select Committee will be to draw together the material already compiled by the standing committees of the House in order to define the most constructive support function which can be served by the Select Committee. Additionally, the Select Committee will evaluate the approach, accomplishments and weaknesses of the various Federal bodies and also the relationship between the agencies of the federal government and the local and state authorities. The Select Committee will serve as the forum for a comprehensive review of this Nation's drug abuse programs and help to formulate a coordinated congressional response to the complex and urgent question of how best to respond to the drug abuse epidemic currently threatening this nation.

It is anticipated that the Select Committee will find it necessary to go into the field, both domestically, and internationally to investigate different aspects of the narcotics problem. The budget includes provision for travel by Members and staff as well as the funds for staff investigations as authorized by the enabling resolution. During the remainder of this Congress, the primary emphasis of the Select Committee will be to draw together the work of the various Committees and Executive Agencies, and from the results of the survey determine what investigations need to be pursued.

Liaison will be established with all of the standing Committees which have legislative jurisdiction over narcotics abuse and control. In addition, the Members of the Select Committee who also serve on one of the seven legislative committees having jurisdiction in this field will be expected to serve as an informal liaison with their standing committee to insure that no duplication of effort takes place and the standing committees are kept abreast of the work of the Select Committee. Special attention will be paid to requests for studies and investigations by the standing committees so that the research needs of the legislative committees will be responded to in the most efficient manner.

As Chairman, it is my intention to supervise closely the expenditure for salaries and other expenses to insure the greatest economy of operation consistent with our effort to produce positive results. We intend to hold our expenditures to the lowest level keeping in our minds the cost to our taxpayer. The oversight work of this Select Committee will help to determine the strengths and weaknesses in the current Federal effort and hopefully illuminate a means for constructively combatting the complex problem. The Select Committee will devote its energies to constructing the comprehensive and coordinated Federal program which is currently needed.

Never before has the need for an effective policy been greater. The United States is being engulfed by a drug epidemic. The number of heroin abusers has doubled in the last three years and currently total more than 500,000. Drug-related crime has been estimated at \$17 billion annually. The Select Committee can serve as an important first step in the effort to combat the complex problem of drug abuse.

Proposed budget for Selected Committee on Narcotic Abuse and Control

Salaries:

Professional ¹ -----	\$65,200
Clerical ² -----	12,666
Subtotal -----	77,867

Operating expenses:

Telephone -----	1,200
Supplies/publications -----	2,000
Equipment -----	2,000
Travel -----	15,000
Consultants/witnesses -----	7,500
Miscellaneous -----	6,100
Subtotal -----	33,800
Total -----	111,667

¹ Professional staff:

Chief of Staff/Admin -----	\$11,666.66
Counsel -----	12,600.00
Do -----	12,600.00
Staff assistant -----	7,500.00
Research assistant -----	5,000.00
Do -----	5,000.00
Do -----	4,166.66
Investigator -----	6,666.66

² Clerical staff:

Secretary -----	\$4,666.00
Do -----	4,000.00
Do -----	4,000.00

As the first major effort of the staff will be the collation and analysis of existing material on drug abuse, the staff assistant, three research assistants, and investigator will be detailed to this project.